



# Miss Zukas Shelves the Evidence

*Jo Dereske*

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This Ain't No Garden Party In a boldly personal move, Police Chief Wayne Gallant has arranged a meeting between his children and Bellehaven's beloved librarian Helma Zukas. But the fates have not yet smiled on this pair, as the long overdue introductions are interrupted -- by murder. For not only is Helma's newest neighbor pushing up roses in her garden, her latest crop's a corpse. And when the chief's investigation has him digging too close to the truth, he's helped to a nearly fatal fall from a cliff, a potentially incriminating library book found within reach.

The police demand the library turn over the borrower's name. Determined to uphold the privacy rights of library patrons, the ever mindful Miss Zukas deletes the information from library records -- but not before she takes note of it. And now it's up to Helma -- with teenagers in tow and an assist from bohemian buddy Ruth -- to get to the bottom of this murderous mess before Wayne Gallant's assailant makes sure the evidence Miss Zukas holds is shelved...permanently.

## Miss Zukas Shelves the Evidence Details

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Author : Jo Dereske

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# **From Reader Review Miss Zukas Shelves the Evidence for online ebook**

## **Laurie says**

Librarian extraordinaire, Helma Zukas, solves another case of murder in small town Bellehaven, WA. Who killed professor Dixon, leaving a young widow, and who pushed Police Chief Gallant off a cliff to cover the crime? But there's a library book left at the scene...

Fun cozy mystery series.

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## **Marilyn says**

I love Miss Zukas but her actions in this one were a little over the top.

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## **Grace says**

I've read the other books in this series. While, in a way, they're cute, Helma Zukas has developed into such a stereotypical, self-righteous, uptight librarian that I've begun to hate her. Ah well.

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## **Don says**

Does the confidentiality of patrons reading trump the police's request for that information in the pursuit of a criminal? For the librarian Miss Zukas, there is no debate, even when it is her friend who has been the victim of a of the serious crime. This is one of the best in the series. Recommended

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## **Phair says**

Second Miss Zukas I've read. What bugs me about her is she's a 39 year old spinster but she behaves more like a 65yo [no offense to 65 yo's- I'm almost there myself]: prissy, neat, old-fashioned, drives too slow, grouses at bad manners. She must work in a very rich library since it seems like almost everyone, including staff at circulation has an MLS degree and the biggest problem is rivalry over positions like "chair of the pamphlet case committee to select a new display rack"- give me a break! She does stand up for patron privacy but overall I think I've had enough of Miss Zukas.

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## **Marty says**

Miss Zukas, a prim, proper librarian of the old school finds herself involved with a murder mystery. Part of the evidence was a library book. The police were sure that if they could find out who had checked out the

library book, they would have the killer. Miss Zukas was not sure the book would find the killer, but she was sure that it was against library policy to reveal who checked books out without proper court orders. The only way she could be sure this library policy would be followed was to erase the record of the book's borrowers.... And this she did. But did she help or hinder justice?

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### **Spuddie says**

#8 in the Helma Zukas mystery series set in fictional Bellehaven, WA. Helma, a librarian, is meeting her "friend" Wayne Gallant's teenage children for the first time when they visit from out of town. Before they can spend much time together, Wayne--who is also the chief of police--is seriously injured when he falls or was pushed from a cliff, sustaining a serious head injury.

He was investigating the death of a professor from a local university, at first thought to be a heart attack until an injection site and unusually high levels of insulin in his blood were found. The professor's much-younger wife is the daughter of Helma's new neighbor, the former wrestler known as TNT. The professor was not diabetic, but after nosing around a bit at the behest of TNT--who can't stand his daughter's crying and carrying on--she discovers that the wife's cat WAS diabetic and on insulin.

Mary Jane becomes the primary suspect then, but Helma doesn't believe her guilty and she carries on investigating--also hoping to find out who injured Wayne Gallant--all while trying to keep up with his two teenaged children. As Helma tends to be rather set in her ways and somewhat rigid, she needs some help and she gets by with assistance from her colorful friend Ruth and her mother and aged Aunt Em and ventures rather far outside her usual behavior.

I have still not been able to pinpoint exactly why I enjoy this series so much--cozies have become far from my favorites, but I look forward eagerly to each of these, and also am dreading the end of the series as there's only three left.

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### **Ann Cooper says**

A fast read who-done-it with all the well-loved characters--just the kind of light, enjoyable book you want after a day of too much craziness.

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### **Mary (Biblophile) says**

I've read all this series. Miss Zukas may be a prig, but her friend Ruth is a hoot.

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### **Susie says**

I've read others in this series before--really a fun read and if you do follow the series it's interesting to see how the characters change over time-and how relationships shift. I love the character of the librarian Miss Zukas whose world is so orderly until she falls in love with the police chief. The author does a good job

creating her characters and depicting the politics of not only daily life in the police station but daily life in the library! Very enjoyable read!

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**KarenC says**

Miss Zukas does the right thing! and solves the case herself.

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**Pat Kiser says**

Entertaining and a quick read. Accurately portrays librarians.

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**Barbara says**

In this charming episode, it almost seems as though things are going to work out between Helma and Wayne. Nothing like a little physical danger to enhance the heart growing fonder!

Meanwhile Helma becomes a heroine of librarians by her adherence to ethical standards, protecting the privacy of her patrons' reading preferences. Of course this *has* to be in the center of a murder mystery, or it wouldn't be a Miss Zukas mystery, now would it?

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**Mary MacKintosh says**

Jo Dereske is a librarian and a wonderful writer!! The Miss Zukas books are set in a quasi-Bellingham city, and that make them especially fun for me to read.

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**Susan says**

Miss Helma Zukas is a librarian in Bellhaven, Washington, who does things by the book (pun intended). In this story, she investigates the murder of a retired college professor. Her boyfriend, Wayne Gallant, the chief of police has been injured in the process of the investigation and Helma has been left to care for his two teenaged children while solving the crime. Miss Zukas is not everyone's cup of tea, but I enjoy her quirks and rigidity along with her ability to continue her high school friendship with Ruth, who is nearly the exact opposite of her.

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